

ALL ROCK ISLAND CELEBRATES SANE FOURTH OF JULY

Fine Municipal Program at
Long View Park Attracts
Hundreds of Local People.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS MANY

Scores of Entertainments at Various
Places in Vicinity Provide
Amusement for Crowds.

With a fine "safe and sane" Fourth of July program at Long View park this afternoon, conducted under the auspices of the municipal government, and scores of other attractions in the various places of amusement in Rock Island and vicinity, the people of this city found many opportunities to celebrate the natal day of this country.

The celebration at Long View park was the big event of "Independence day" in Rock Island and it attracted scores of people, not only from within the limits of the city, but from surrounding country as well.

Rock Island practically closed shop and gave itself over to a day of celebration. Throughout the entire night noise was king, and though many remained awake late to celebrate the day even before its advent, others arose early to herald the rising sun with the explosion of the old doubled barrel.

Young Rock Island needed no calling by mother this morning. Long before the parent had even gazed at the timepiece the boys and girls were about the yard "shooting them off."

Program at Long View.

There was no set program for the morning and the big event at Long View park did not commence until 2 o'clock. Rev. James Edgar Wilson, new pastor of the Broadway Presbyterian church, opened the exercises with a prayer. The band rendered a selection and was followed by an address by Devore Simonson, which appears in full elsewhere in today's Argus.

Miss Marie Williams, a graduate of the high school, read the "Declaration of Independence," which was signed by our forefathers 138 years ago today, and which was the first decided step taken by Americans to form a free and independent nation.

Following a selection by the band the daylight fireworks were displayed. This feature proved a great delight to all of the boys and girls and interested the grown-ups as well.

Many Other Attractions.

Aside from the municipal celebration the parks in the tri-cities attracted many. Street cars leading to picnic groves were crowded during the morning.

The races at Exposition park proved a drawing card for hundreds who enjoy horses in action, while some preferred the motor races at Davenport.

All of the parks made extra preparations for handling huge crowds this evening and new features were added to the regular programs at these places. The excursion steamers were crowded with pleasure-seekers.

City Closes Shop.

With the exception of the meat markets which were open until 11 o'clock this morning, the stores in the city were closed. The postoffice observed the day, the general delivery windows being open from 7 till 10 o'clock this morning. There was one delivery by carriers.

At the Watertown state hospital a big celebration was held. Athletic events, in which some excellent prizes were awarded, composed the greater portion of the program.

Attorney G. C. Wenger of this city gave the principal address at the celebration held at Robinson's grove, near Edgington. Some of the smaller towns of the county had some arranged celebration of the day.

Southern Brings Crowd.

The Rock Island Southern brought hundreds of people to the city. Excursions were run all day long and the special rate granted, was taken advantage of by big crowds of people from Monmouth and other towns on the Interurban. Matherville is celebrating today, but Aleno and all the other towns on the line abandoned programs, which accounts for the large number of people coming to Rock Island. In anticipation of the heavy traffic the Southern was compelled to borrow coaches from the Rock Island and the Santa Fe railroads.

Up to Us.

"The human race is dying out."
"Let posterity worry over that."
"How aggravating you are, Maltravers! There won't be any posterity."
—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Attorney General Cossan has ruled that the Iowa state board of control may send prisoners to work on the public highways of the state without armed guards.



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Everything
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20% right off
the bottom of
your sales
check
1-5

SIMONSON TELLS WHAT IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE AMERICA'S FREEDOM

Devore N. Simonson, Rock Island attorney, in his address at the Long View park celebration this afternoon, discussed some of the things which he held still need to be done to complete the freedom for America which had its birth in 1776. Curbing of unfairness in competition in trade, elimination of discrimination in commerce, the perfecting of an understanding between labor and capital and the development of a foreign policy which will insure peace with the world at large were some of the problems alluded to. The speaker first reviewed the events which led up to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, saying, in part:

"It is often said that this is the day of the young man, that in the older days the older men ruled. But do you know the man who drew the declaration of independence? Every school boy knows. But do you know that that man, Thomas Jefferson, was but 33 years of age at that time? And that Edward Rutledge who sat beside him in the congress was but 28?"

"That committee reported on the first of July and for four days its report was debated. The reports of the congress of that sitting say that it seemed as though the debate would run on interminably, would never end. But the weather was very hot and near the hall was a stable, from which large swarms of flies came into the hall. In those days the delegates wore knee breeches and long stockings, and these swarms of flies pestered the men so, alighting on their legs and biting through their thin silk stockings that they were driven almost to distraction. As a writer has said, 'treason was preferable to discomfort' and so the delegates rushed up to the platform to sign the document and escape from the horse flies."

"And so the Declaration of Independence was passed, and we were declared independent, and we became independent."

ent, though at a cost the greatness of which those patriots could not and did not foresee.

Are We Free?

"But while this independence has brought us a large population and a developed land, has it given us all the freedom which we think we have? Are we really free? In a great many ways, no."

"Following the Spanish-American war we as a nation threw aside our swaddling clothes, as it were, and became a nation among nations. Previous to that time we had been little considered in the congress of nations. We had no foreign possessions and in dealing with matters of foreign policy the other countries paid little attention to our opinions. But when we took the Philippines and annexed Hawaii the tone of official correspondence changed. We had become of age in the family of nations. Coming of age always carries with it certain duties, some more enormous than others. And so with this country."

"We find now that we must have a foreign policy; that our national acts must be considered in their effect upon other countries and their policies. It has been said by some that the repeal of the tolls exemption act was hastened by the fact that Great Britain wanted the repeal, that she and Japan are allies—which is, of course, a fact—that Japan was about to seriously press for settlement the immigration

question in California, and that because a repeal was to be passed Great Britain was to use her good offices in persuading Japan to go quietly in her controversy with the U. S."

"Whether this be true or not we do not know, for matters of foreign policy such as these cannot be told by those in charge of our government, but it gives us an inkling as to what positions we as a nation can easily get into and how we are not so free as it would at first appear."

Local Problems Press.

"To speak of affairs within our own limits. There are many question and conditions which must be settled before we become free. There are questions of proper municipal governing, of labor and capital, of proper protection for factory and mine workers."

"The latter part of the 19th and first of the 20th centuries comprised the time when monopoly was broadcast and largely unrestrained. Our great trusts came into being and were nurtured into full development. Our railroads were becoming very closely allied in their inner workings. This continued until people became alarmed, finally appalled at the tremendous size and power of these aggregations of capital. It was seen that something had to be done if the interests of our people were to be conserved."

"The interstate commerce commission with its gradually increasing powers through decisions of the supreme court has to an extent curbed the power of the rail carriers."

"Somewhat belated attempts at enforcing the Sherman anti-trust law have done some good. But those dissolutions were only a farce, amounting to nothing. Where there is unfair competition by the trusts and raising of the prices unduly there should be a punishment of jail sentences instead of dissolutions and fines. Only in that way can the results aimed at be attained. As a people we want this matter settled, we do not want to be all the time in a position where we are liable to be imposed upon, and neither does honest big business want to be in a con-

tinued state of uncertainty about the law and its enforcement."

Unrest in Labor World.

"Turn to another phase of the matter. We all recall those terrible times a couple of years ago when the men in the cotton and woolen mills in Lawrence, Mass., were having trouble with their employers."

"That state of affairs with its resulting bloodshed, loss of employment for months and financial loss by the mills will long be remembered. Something of the same sort has taken place in Michigan, West Virginia and now in Colorado."

"To think of the millions of dollars lost by these copper miners and owners alike, though the latter are better able to afford their loss, and then to have fresh in our minds those terrible times in Colorado where scores of lives were lost and homes destroyed; where hearts were embittered and warfare raged for months. The true facts of all the trouble will doubtless be shown us when some proper investigations are made but at least we know that the clock of civilization was turned back many years in that section and that things were done which savored of savages rather than of human beings. And yet we have these troubles often between labor and capital and there seems to be no sign of their discontinuance."

Needless Loss of Life.

"And yet another binding chain about us is the enormous and unnecessary loss of life in this free country in factory and mine. Hundreds, yes thousands of men, women and children are lost to us every year. Of course we do what seems to us the best we can do but it is not nearly enough. Our laws are nothing to what they should be for the proper protection of the workers. Society needs these people as useful members of its body, to help it build up this land and yet they are denied sufficient protection."

"And how are we governed today? Is there freedom in our government? In a larger way, yes. But who can pick up a paper without reading of some city which is having trouble with its local government? Charges

of fraud and incompetency daily are matters of news from all over the land. Do we hear of such charges in European countries? Rarely. In this phase of government Europe is free and America is not free."

"Civilization is an onward moving force. America wants to go forward with civilization, as it went for many years. But it cannot go in the manner it should unless a different state of affairs prevails. America cannot be bound and free at the same time. Civilization demands that freedom should go unhampered."

"What then are we to do, for we are a nation and a nation's duty is expected of us today?"

Is An Optimist.

"Who believe that these matters which I have spoken of and others can never be solved; that America has reached the zenith of her power and is on her downward path; that the people have not the desire or the moral fibre to face these conditions fairly and squarely and settle them; that other nations will surpass us from now on. I do not care for that sort of people, ladies and gentlemen. I think, with all sincerity, that they are

absolutely wrong. I am an optimist on America. She will, I firmly believe, declare a new Declaration of Independence, assert herself as a nation and do her duty as one; will, with her mighty powers and force settle these and other problems in due time."

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